

Strand Theatre Shelbyville, Inc.

Old Website Article Backup

Articles prior to December 5, 2018

Lessons Learned

Written by David on September, 28 2011

All performance venues were saddened by the tragedy at the Indiana State Fair in August 2011. The Strand Board of Directors looked at that event and decided to do what we could to keep that from happening at the Strand. Our first test came in late September. The Shelby County Players built a wonderful set for their production of Arsenic and Old Lace under the guidance of set designer Mike Evans. This set utilizes the height of the Strand's auditorium and is two stories tall.

In keeping with our discussions about the State Fair tragedy, the Strand asked the City of Shelbyville inspectors to take a look. The outcome was a structure that is safe for the actors and audience. They were impressed by the ruggedness of construction and the attention to detail.

The inspection was done by Tammy Cornelius aided by Tom DeBaun, Building Commissioner. While Tom was on the set he recalled a time when he too acted in Arsenic and Old Lace many years ago!

With two thumbs up, the Shelby County Players are ready and the Strand implemented what we learned by studying the State Fair stage collapse.

Below are Tom and Tammy looking at the staircase of the set:

Images on this post:



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